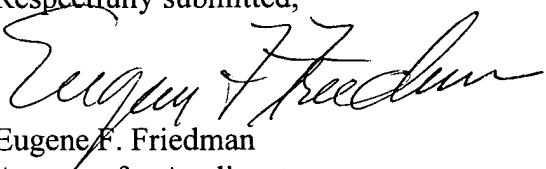


The present paper also constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement for the subject application. The attached Form PTO/SB/08a list *all* of the references in the grandparent application (serial number 08/284,893, and now patent 5,693,283) and the parent of this application (serial number 8/917,044). Copies of these references are not enclosed since all the entries on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08a were cited in either the parent or the grandparent application.

The attached Form PTO/SB/08a also lists U.S. patent 3,370,773 to R. W. Mayo. A copy of this patent *is* enclosed. Examiner J. Hayes, who had handled the parent application for a period, informally provided Applicant's undersigned attorney with a copy of the Mayo patent. In fact, it formed the basis for some discussion between Examiner Hayes and the attorney. However, it did not receive official citation the parent application's file. Accordingly, since the reference has some relevance, Applicant cites it on the attached form and provides a copy. He accordingly requests citation of all of the listed patents in the file of the present application.

Applicant believes that the above has placed the present application in condition for allowance. He sincerely requests this action. Should some minor impediment prevent this action, then the examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number given below. Hopefully, such a phone call will portend a substantial saving on the parts of the Patent and Trademark Office and Applicant.

Respectfully submitted,


Eugene F. Friedman
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 25,627

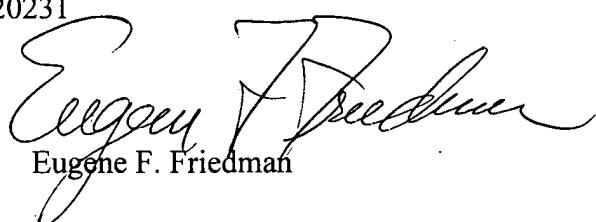
Eugene F. Friedman
FRIEDMAN & FRIEDMAN, LTD.
Monadnock Building -- Suite 1633
53 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604
(312) 922-8882
Dated: January 24, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope with label number EM554066508US and sufficient postage and addressed to:

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

on January 24, 2001.



Eugene F. Friedman

DIVISION OF Ser. No. 8/917,044

09/768478
JC975 U.S. PTO
01/24/01